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CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

December 24, 1981

POLAND: Regime Breaks Strike

The regime has ended a major strike at the Katowice Steel Mill and is moving to try to root out Solidarity support in the government and press. Employees in at least one government ministry who refuse to disavow support for Solidarity in writing reportedly are being fired. The government has admitted that passive resistance has taken a toll on the already crippled economy. [REDACTED]

Warsaw radio claimed that the authorities restored "order and calm" without any injuries and that most of the "provocateurs and organizers" of the strike were apprehended. [REDACTED]

Most strike activity is concentrated at several Silesian coal mines and on the Baltic Coast, but one [REDACTED] source claims there are minor strikes in a number of small enterprises in other parts of the country. [REDACTED]

Warsaw radio said that strikes, absenteeism, and suspicion among recalcitrant workers were causing fuel and food shortages. Acknowledging worker resentment of martial law, the radio conceded that "people once full of talk now work in silence." [REDACTED]

The regime is taking steps to attempt to ensure the loyalty of government officials and journalists when martial law restrictions are eased. Journalists are reportedly undergoing intensive scrutiny, and those judged "unsafe" are being dismissed. [REDACTED]

Government leaders are continuing a campaign to convince the population that the situation is returning to normal and that it will continue the reform process. Premier Jaruzelski met yesterday with more than 50 of the country's leading academicians in an apparent effort

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to calm fears and win support of the intellectual community. Radiobroadcasts have announced that all schools except universities will reopen on 4 January. [REDACTED]

Deputy Premier Malinowski told [REDACTED] yesterday that the government would continue to support private agriculture and had submitted draft laws to the national legislature guaranteeing profits, flexible prices, and improved social benefits for private farmers. [REDACTED]

Talks between the government and the Church, meanwhile, are producing few results. [REDACTED] the Church has refused a government offer to join in a National Council of Consensus until Solidarity's rights are fully restored. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Pope's special emissary had not made any headway in discussions with the government. Jaruzelski refused to accept a letter sent by the Pope earlier this week because of its criticism of current conditions, and he reportedly is angry that the Pope released copies of the letter to other countries. Church officials soon may seek government permission to help organize a relief effort to provide medicine and other necessities for those who have been interned. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A Soviet commentator in today's *Pravda* adds a new allegation to earlier charges of US "interference" by accusing one of the US consulates in Poland of helping to beam broadcasts into Poland. The commentator concludes, however, that life is returning to normal and that the Poles will put their house in order. [REDACTED]

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A TASS article on Tuesday criticized Assistant Secretary Eagleburger's alleged attempt to "force" NATO Allies into imposing sanctions against Poland and the USSR. While encouraged by the "almost negative" reception that Eagleburger encountered from the Allies, TASS implied that this would not be the last US attempt to play the "Polish card" as a pretext for justifying the arms race buildup. [REDACTED]